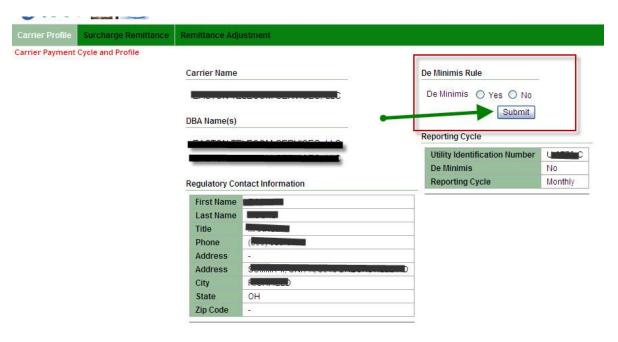
CPUC Telecommunications & User Fees Filing System (TUFFS)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CARRIERS OPERATING UNDER THE "DE MINIMIS" RULE

Carriers: You must follow these guidelines to keep your **De Minimis** designation.

All certificated carriers must report and remit surcharges on a monthly basis except for those that are <u>De Minimis</u>. De Minimis carriers are carriers whose average intrastate billings are equal or less than \$60,000 over a six month period. De Minimis carriers are permitted to pay on a semi-annual basis from <u>January to June</u> and from <u>July to December</u>. If a carrier is paying on a monthly basis and realizes that it qualifies as a De Minimis carrier, it must continue paying on a monthly basis until it arrives at one of the two six month periods above (i.e. qualified carriers can report after reporting for the month of June or December). After initial TUFFS enrollment, the carrier must inform the CPUC by e-mail (telco_surcharge@cpuc.ca.gov) of its intention to report and remit payment on a De Minimis basis going forward. The e-mail should include the carrier's name, 4-digit Utility Identification Number, and a statement that the average intrastate billings are equal or less than \$10,000 a month. Similarly, if a carrier is paying on a De Minimis basis and realizes that it no longer qualifies as De Minimis, it must inform the CPUC by e-mail (telco_surcharge@cpuc.ca.gov) of its intention to report and remit payment on a monthly basis going forward. The e-mail should include the carrier's name, 4-digit Utility Identification Number, and a statement that the average intrastate billings are now greater than \$10,000 a month.

1) The first time you log in to **TUFFS**, you will be taken to your **Profile** screen and asked to select whether or not you qualify to pay under the "**De Minimis Rule**". Please make your selection & click **Submit** before continuing.



^{*}Note: Some information has been blacked out for privacy purposes.

2. Once you have made your selection, you will be shown a confirmation. **Note**: If you selected "**YES**" for your "De Minimis Rule" option, you will have to <u>wait one business day</u> before proceeding on to your first Surcharge Remittance.



3. As a new Carrier, if your first month to report is not **January** or **July**, you must still report for all months remaining in the current cycle, even if you qualify for the De Minimis Rule.

<u>For example</u>, if you first log in to the TUFFS system in July 2010, you will be required to report your May & June 2010 surcharges by their individual due dates **FOR THIS BILLING PERIOD ONLY**. Once you have reported your surcharges for theses two months, you may resume your regular De Minimis reporting practices.

Important Note for both Existing and New De Minimis Rule Carriers: Even though payments are only required twice a year, you <u>must</u> still <u>submit an online Surcharge Transmittal form for every month in the six-month period</u>. This does not have to be done on a monthly basis (though it is recommended), however, please remember only one form can be submitted per day. <u>You will be required to submit one</u> form per day for six days if you choose to wait till the last billing month before reporting.